



Quid Novi



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THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

By Joshua Fireman, BCL III

Normally, I can tear off an article in about an hour and a half. An idea pops into my head, and I let my fingers do the walking along my keyboard. The resulting piece of writing gets edited once, and handed into the Quid. At least, that's how it's normally done.

This time around, things are very different. I've been working on and off on a tribute to Mrs. Lederer for almost three weeks now, and haven't come up with anything that I consider worth printing. I've gone through different drafts, formats and writing styles. In the end, though, I can't seem to put something together that does justice to Mrs. Lederer and what she meant to this faculty.

Whenever, I try to write about her, I find

my mind drifting back to the last time I spoke to her. It was the end of August, and the fresh-faced and bushy-tailed first years were standing in lines twenty-deep, waiting for their chance to speak to MARS. I was standing by the stair-well doorway, when it swung open and Mrs. Lederer bounced out onto the second floor. I commented that the new crop looked mightily lost; she responded that I had looked even worse on my first day. She was right, of course, but I didn't have time to say so, since she had already disappeared into the crowd in room 202 to make sure no botch-ups were occurring on her watch.

I guess that was just vintage Lederer; a quick word and then on to deal with the next crisis.

Crisises were, beyond a shadow of doubt,

her specialty. One friend of mine went through one of those personal disasters that seems tailor-made for a movie-of-the-week, except that it was real, along with the pain and trauma it caused him. He needed to get his final exams deferred in order to deal with the problem, and Mrs. Lederer did the job with her usual efficiency.

But, that sure wasn't the end of the story. Even after his life had smoothed out, and the exams had been written. Mrs. Lederer would stop him in the halls and ask how he was doing. "You really got the impression that she cared," he told me. Of course, he was right. This was one Mother-in-Law anyone would be happy to have around if you found yourself up a creek without your paddle.

Someone else once told me how Mrs.

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IN DOWNTOWN OTTAWA

By Andreas Sautter, LLB III

The corner of Wellington and Sussex offers the pedestrian several options. Standing at the southeast corner, one could veer about and enter the Elephant & Castle to enjoy any one of a smorgasbord of foreign beers. Or one could endeavour to cross the busy thoroughfare to advance one block of north, where a right turn would allow the enjoyment of the Market, a fusion between small shop mercantilism, tourist havenism, and town centrism. A left turn offers a much bleaker prospect in the edifice housing

the Department of National Revenue. A curious traveller might wonder what the criteria for access might be, as this is undoubtedly the place where the government fails to balance its budget. Quite severe in appearance, the building creates an aura of asceticism. The astute observer however will have noticed the entry of the pizza person and will have banished all perception of austerity, fiscal or otherwise.

To proceed further north along Sussex would lead to #24, where Brian and his

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ANNOUNCEMENTS / ANNONCES

TAKE CARE OF THE COMMON ROOM - The Common Room is the most beautiful and traditional room in the Faculty. Unfortunately, it has been damaged and is deteriorating at an abnormal rate. Let's take pride in it and take care of it. If we don't, we may not be able to use it for much longer.

LAWYERS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY - will host a conference on Human Rights in Northern Ireland on March 19 and 20. For more detailed information, see the article in this Quid.

FORUM NATIONAL - will be welcoming Mr. Justice F. Iacobucci to McGill Law School on Friday, April 3, 1992, at 12:00 noon in the Moot Court. This is Forum National's last event of the year. We hope you will attend.

SUMMER JOB - lease verification, part-time about 2 days a week (flexible hours). Large clothing chain, very competitive rates. Call Amanda at 938-9373.

DELTA THETA PHI - Join McGill's Pro-

fessional Legal Association. Delta Theta Phi is an international professional legal association comprised of law students and lawyers throughout Canada, the USA, Australia and Iceland (!). Other than being a law student or lawyer there are no restrictions to becoming a member. For information on joining, call George at 398 - 9251 **Membership has its privileges!**

THE MCGILL LAW JOURNAL - is holding a reception for first and second year students interested in applying to the Journal next year. Les membres de la Revue seront alors disponibles pour vous donner de l'information et répondre à vos questions. La réception aura lieu le mercredi 24 mars, entre 12:30 et 14:30 dans la "Common Room".

MCGILL LECTURES IN JURISPRUDENCE AND PUBLIC POLICY INAUGURAL LECTURE - presents **Professor Ronald Dworkin**, Professor of Jurisprudence at Oxford University. Professor Dworkin who is an eminent scholar in legal theory will be speaking on "Justice in the Distribution of Health Care". The event will be held on Wednesday, March 17 at 17:30 in the Moot Court. All welcome.

GRADUATION 1993 - Graduation will be held Saturday, May 1st 1993 at the St. James Club, 1145 Union St., with cocktails beginning at 7 p.m. Les billets, dont le prix a été fixé à \$55 par personne, sont en vente dès le 8 mars. vous pourrez vous les procurer auprès des membres du comité (Tina Hobday, Suzy Costom, Gregory David, Nathalie kDuguay, Stéphanie Gilcher, Janice Gross, Rhonda Yarin ou encore auprès de Corina Stonebanks et de Monica Creery. Le nombre de places est limité, alors hâtez-vous!

The grad committee will also be selling graduation rings at very "reasonable" prices! The sale will take place starting March 8, for two weeks during lunch hours. Tickets for Graduation will also be available from committee members present during those sale hours.

Discounted Tickets - "Death and the Maiden". A white knuckle political thriller playing at the Sadye Bronfman Center. Tickets are available for law students \$10/each, or \$8 for groups of 10 or more. Cal: 739-7944.

CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

By Alan McConnell (L.S.R.)

The Lawyers for Social Responsibility will present a conference on human rights in Northern Ireland in the Moot Court on Friday March 19 and Saturday March 20. Speaking at the conference will be representatives of several organizations active in the field of human rights in Northern Ireland. In organizing the conference the LSR hopes to contribute in a meaningful way to the struggle for peace and justice in Ireland.

We are especially pleased to present Paul Hill of the "Guildford 4", a victim of one of the greatest miscarriages of justice cases in British legal history. After sixteen years wrongful imprisonment, Mr. Hill and three of his friends were finally freed on 17 October 1990 when their convictions for IRA bombings were quashed by the Court of Appeal. The Director of Public Prosecutions had decided not to sustain the convictions after major irregularities had been uncovered in the way police had obtained their original confessions. The four had always

maintained their innocence and insisted that their confessions had been obtained by force. (The release of the "Guildford 4" was followed soon after by the overturning of other miscarriages of justice cases involving Irish people, including the "Birmingham 6").

Mr. Hill will speak at a public meeting in the Moot Court on the evening of March 19. His story is a personal testimony of injustice. Mr. Hill spent a total of four and one half years of his sixteen year

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INTERNATIONAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

By Tim Bloos, LLB II; Theresa Hinz, LLB II and Andreas Sautter, LLB III

In 1992-93, the Placement Office began compiling a directory of international employment and internship opportunities. For any student who is interested in this type of work, we recommend that you stop by the Placement Office and take a look at the many documents, letters, and pamphlets we have gathered from all over the world.

The first place to look is in a black binder entitled "International Employment Opportunities". In this binder you will find a directory of addresses of public international organizations, primarily United Nations and its affiliates, and law firms dealing in private international law. This directory is also available through the law computer lab under

"pubdocs" Just call up directory: Dir n:\pubdocs*. * and then retrieve the file called "Intl". Many thanks to Professor Toope and Professor Janda for their assistance in gathering this information.

In this binder you will also find all the correspondence we have received from international organizations, firms, and agencies. These letters provide some information about the type of work the organizations are engaged in, employment and internship opportunities, etc. In this binder there is also a copy of the United Nations Address and Telephone Directory (thanks to Jennifer Woolcombe).

There is also a file drawer entitled "International Employment Opportunities" that should be consulted in conjunction with the binder. In this drawer are files representing various organizations and

firms who have sent us brochures, application forms, etc. The binder and file drawer offer any student interested in international work or internships a good starting point in researching such opportunities.

Remember that the Placement Office is only a starting point. There are ample opportunities to work and study abroad. Don't end your research here!! The reference room in McLennan Library has several books on employment, study and internship opportunities. A good book to start with is the UNESCO published "Study/Work Abroad". A copy can be found in the reference room at McLennan. There are many opportunities to work in international law - it just requires a little research to discover all that is available.

Conference on Human Rights Cont'd. from p. 2

imprisonment in solitary confinement; he was also moved prisons a total of forty-three times.

Joining Mr. Hill on Friday night will be Professor Cotler who will speak on the subject, "The Human Rights Revolution: Where Are We Today?" and Richard Harvey of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers who will discuss "Human Rights in Northern Ireland: An Agenda for the 1990s". The event will be Chaired by Warren Allmand M.P.

The following day, Saturday March 20 a series of seminars will be conducted on human rights issues arising out of the Northern Ireland conflict. In the morning, representatives of the Committee on the Administration of Justice (The Northern Ireland Civil Liberties Council) and Amnesty International will discuss the administration of justice in the

north of Ireland.

Later in the morning, Inez McCormack of the National Union of Public Employees and Pierre Paquette of the Confederation of National Trade Unions will discuss discrimination in employment in Northern Ireland. Ms. McCormack is an active campaigner against discrimination in Northern Ireland. M. Paquette's union has played an active role in a campaign to force Bombardier Inc. to adopt the anti-discrimination "McBride Principles on Fair Employment in Northern Ireland". The trade union leader has also visited Belfast to discuss with Irish trade unionists and British government officials the question of discrimination in employment in Northern Ireland.

In the afternoon, David Miller of the Glasgow University Media Group and Howard Goldenthal of CBC's "The Fifth Estate" will discuss, "The Media and Human Rights Abuses in Northern Ire-

land". There will also be an afternoon seminar on state killings and the issue of security force collusion with paramilitary groups conduct by Jeanne Bishop of the American Protestants for Truth About Ireland and Richard Harvey of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers.

Finally, on Saturday night at Thompson House, the LSR will present a pub night with the popular local Irish group "Swerving Buffoon".

Registration for the conference is free for law students who can pick up forms and more information at SAO. Already registered at the conference are delegates from Vancouver, Toronto, Ottawa, Kingston, St. John's, New York, Vermont, and Rhode Island. We encourage all students to attend what promises to be a most valuable examination of the state of human rights in one of the world's longest-running conflicts.

Thanks for the Memories Cont'd. from p. 1

Lederer helped her out during an exam period. It just so happened that this student had two finals scheduled for the day after a friend's wedding, in which she was a bridesmaid. "I just wanted to have my exams pushed back an hour or two each, so that I could get a little R.E.M. sleep after the wedding. Mrs. Lederer did a lot more than just take care of the arrangements for me. She set me up in a little room next to her office, and then kept popping her head in to make sure that I was doing all right; I think that her major worry was that I might not have had time to eat my lunch!"

Food seemed to be something of a theme in Mrs. Lederer anecdotes. One girl ran into Mrs. Lederer in the Dépanneur across Penfield, where she was having a

bite to eat. That was when the old Lederer radar went off. "She came up to me, asked me how I was doing and how my first year was going. She reassured me that, in the end, everyone does just fine. Then, she asked me to join her for a bite! We talked from late afternoon until it was time for Skit Night to start. I hadn't even planned on going, but she insisted. So, we went together and had a fabulous time. It seemed like all the stress had just left me. She knew exactly what to say and what to do."

This same student was approached by Mrs. Lederer just prior to her hospitalization. "It was around Rosh Hashana. She asked me if everything was going all right, and wished me luck on my future exams and on my career in general. Then, she gave me this great big hug. At the time, I didn't understand why she was acting that way. But, later on in the day,

I found out that she was sick and had to leave the school. I just broke down and cried."

Mrs. Lederer touched, in one way or another, most students who passed through the doors of Chancellor Day Hall. It might have been big or it might have been small, but at some time or another she gave us her help. Now that she is gone, and we no longer hear her voice reverberating through the hallways, the faculty seems a little empty. But, Ilana Lederer left pieces of herself in more than one heart over the years. That energy should continue to keep many of us going over the rough periods.

Just remember, when you're sitting in that examination room in April, to take your three deep breaths. She would have wanted it that way.

Downtown Ottawa Cont'd. from p. 1

fashionable wife Mila would be unavailable to the paparazzi. But given Brian's recent decline the attraction of catching a glimpse of a leader who has outlived his glory may well be reserved to those small minds which delight in the tribulations of others. But wisdom of thought characterizes our protagonist, who quite recognizes the value of leaving those "in misfortune with men's [and women's] eyes" alone. If any attention should be paid to Brian's resignation to his political fate, it should be rather in the light that Canada now has an opportunity to acquire a presentable leader, Audrey McLaughlin and Jean Chrétien notwithstanding. That this would mean five more years of Tory rule is a matter of implications hyperbolic to this article. (If precedent be sought for disproportionate duration of Conservative government, one need look no further than the Brits).

An idler has a third option at the intersection of George and Sussex. He may enter the café situated at the northeast corner. Not the "clean, well-lighted place" of Ernest Hemingway's imagination, it nevertheless exudes a "sentiment d'accueil" unrivalled by most well-es-

tablished gathering spots. The repose of many a "bavardeur", it is at the same time tolerant of the solitary aspiring writer of café philosopher (tweed jacket and Plato's Republic opened at the middle are de rigueur). Chess and card players co-exist harmoniously, if separately, and clientèle more inclined toward liquid pleasures find ample stock for their indulgence. Some radical minorities also congregate peacefully there, though inconspicuously, thereby exercising their s. 2(a) and 15 rights.

All customers are equal here, in that the service they receive discriminates against no-one's patience. Waiters and waitresses routinely bungle orders, but in the laissez-faire atmosphere, no one seems to mind. The owner is the exception to the general attitude, and follow Keynes in disturbing the laws of supply and demand, for he adopts the rather interventionist approach of asking the patrons whether they have already been served. The bedevilled client (we'll call her/him Linda/John) may be at a loss what to make of such close attention from so high an authority. This may not be a "Premier Ministre en pert de vitesse", but a "restaurateur" still has some standing in the modern age. If John is simple minded and receptive to understated salesmanship, he may order a café au lait (caffé

latte if you are Italian or from BC), in addition to the apple-marzipan cake already on its way. But if Linda is quick of wit and legally trained, she will not fail to see the immediate issue (two apple-marzipans or one) as well as comprehend the underlying policy concern: a café cannot compete with the pizza delivery business on an equal footing; it is the "service sur place" which must shine. Anyone with a soft spot for palatal delights would make a result-oriented decision and skirt the policy consideration altogether. But a concern for the allocation of resources would require perplexed reflection over having to choose between the frenzied capitalism of pizza chains and the bourgeois advances of the cafetier.

This state of affairs could not but help lead to a sort of schizophrenia in Linda/John, the kind created by the pursuit of personal desires obscured by a cloud of social awareness (this is quite apart from the confusion he/she suffers about her/his sex). After such much mental turmoil, Linda/John irresolutely departs from the café and ambles toward Wellington and Sussex, not having responded to the inquiry of the owner. There was no real answer, after all. Moving down the street to face the Parliament Buildings provides no further solace. Maybe Brian has a point.

INTERVIEW: THE RETURN (IN DOLBY, 3-D, AND SMELL-O-RAMA IN SELECTED VENUES).

By Brian Fell (3 + Air Brakes)

Following universal (my Mum and Dad) critical acclaim of my last interview, I've been persuaded to do another. This week I interview the SAO staff: Christine, Heather, Jennifer and Jane. Unlike my interview with Harold, this session became more of a wandering general discussion featuring numerous interruptions and continual appearances and disappearances of the interviewees due to their job tasks.

The frequent tangents upon which the conversation embarked may or may not have been of interest to Quid readers (I sworn to secrecy on those of most interest) and so have not been reproduced. I've reorganised and paraphrased the discussion and it's quite possible that it bears no resemblance at all to what was actually said (There, that should absolve me from responsibility). Comments are those of the group, and not of any individual interviewee except as indicated.

But first, like the naturalist in "Gorillas in the Mist" (no similarity intended) I had to gain the confidence of my subjects. I explained that I was interviewing the institutions of the Faculty and that there was no need to worry since Harold's interview had broken the ice. This is what followed:

Who's Harold?

You don't know who Harold is? (I offer a brief explanation)

That's interesting in itself. It shows how removed we are from students life here. Do you know we've never seen a yearbook? And yet, they come n every year and take our pictures for it.

With my influence on the yearbook committee, I just may be able to arrange for you to buy one of the extremely limited number of last year's yearbooks at the unbelievable low price of \$15. There's a really sexy guy on the penultimate page...

(Richard Janda drops in to offer his best regards to Heather. The conversation shifts to the possibility of day-care in the faculty.)

So, Jennifer, tell us about yourself.

I've been working at SAO since October. I did my degree in History and Native Studies at Trent University, then worked in various

community development programs in Peterborough and planted trees one summer in Ontario. Soon I'll be off with friends to travel in Europe.

When will that be?

Oh, soon... What did you do before law, Brian?

[I provided a fascinating description of my past. they sat dumbfounded, mouths agape (no, they weren't yawning). Eventually, journalistic discipline prevailed.]

Christine, how about you?

I've been 2 1/2 years at SAO. I worked 2 years in the faculty of engineering, left McGill for 6 years to have my kids (now aged 10 and 11), worked for 3 years in the grad faculty, and 1 year in the faculty of education before coming here. I guess you could say I'm an institutional person. No... let me put that another way. I prefer to work at an institution like McGill than to work in the business setting. (At this point, someone dropped by to pick up the many boxes of fall exam booklets and interrupted Christine's story).

Well, on to Heather. You've been working here just over 2 years now, but this is your last day at SAO for about 8 months because of your about-to-be-mother status. Why not tell us how that came to be.

Really, Brian, you should consider going to health services for some information.

No, no, no, I know all about the doctrinal debate between the stork and the cabbage patch theories. I'm confident that eventually one will be proven correct but for now I think our readers might like to know how you got together with your man.

Well, it was never really planned, it just sort of happened. I met Gerry while I was holidaying in Scotland. He came here when he had holidays from work.

So you asked him to come and see you during his holidays?

(Unfortunate question. Heather didn't immediately recall a short discussion, the group decided that it was not a good time to undertake an internal query on this point.)

We married in Montreal and then moved to Scotland. After 4 years we moved back to Montreal so I could be closer to my mother. Gerry's still adjusting to life here but he likes Montreal.

This is your 2nd child, n'est-ce pas?

Yes, Christopher is now three.

Do you have a photo of young Christopher? (Another unfortunate choice of question. The others then realised that Heather had removed the previously-present photo of Christopher from her desk to take home. The situation could have gotten ugly but negotiations ended with a promise by Heather to supply another photo.)

Jane, you're the newest addition to the team. Any observations?

Well, I've only been here since Monday, although I've been a research technician at McGill since 1981. It's fun to work with the people here.

Does that include the students?

Oh, yes. I was working with bacteria before.

Do you notice any similarities?

(A group discussion convinced Jane not to respond to that question.)

Others: Jane's real test will be next week: Course Evaluations (CE).

Jane: My fist one this morning went well, I got all the pencils back.

Others: CE is a stressful time for us. We're always watching the clock. Timing is crucial. And at times, although the profs have been notified that we're coming, they forget about it and continue teaching. What's more, during CE time, all the normal work doesn't get done. (Notice that as an experienced journalist, I had subtly manoeuvred the discussions into the actual work done at SAO.)

The best thing about the work here is that we all get along so well. Sometimes too well. In fact, we get downright giddy at times. Once, a student came in but we were in the middle of such a giggle fit that he had to come back later to ask his question.

Christine: Being in another office now, I find I have to make a conscious effort to come in here and keep in touch. There's a real temptation to avoid this office, especially when things get "hot", as they do at times.

Speaking of things getting "hot", how are the students to deal with?

All: There's a great variety of people here. Some students have a special place in our minds, because of their special... uh... situations. You're one of them.

Hmm... would you like to mention any of the others?

No. Let's just say that sometimes we look at

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Interview: The Return Cont'd. from p. 5

students and ask ourselves what made them apply to study law.

Some students bring us cookies. Here, help yourself.

Thanks.

We like souvlaki too. Arahova's the best, but we can't convince anyone to go there for us. More students should have cars. We end up ordering in from Altos.

Anyway, back to the students. They have a variety of problems and approaches to those problems. Foreign students are especially grateful for our help.

Aren't we domestic students grateful?

Well, we really like to try to help students but some take advantage of that. If there's a 5:00 deadline, we get calls at 4:50 asking us if we can wait 1/2 hour more. Some students are quite demanding. That's counterproductive because we might feel less of a desire to go that extra mile for them.

And it seems that no one reads the regulations and instructions mailed out. Or again, it seems that everyone gets a different version. Generally, students seem to believe that if there's a problem, SAO can fix it.

(Heather's brother arrives for the baby seat and high chair she received at the party.)

But that sounds much more negative than it is.

Many students have come back to express their gratitude for having their problems solved. They're also genuinely concerned about us people. Everyone asked about Mrs. Lederer and now, students even phone in to ask about Heather. The other day it took her about an hour to get back up from the cafeteria, people were so interested. We thought she might have gone into labour but we weren't about to check, just in case it was true!

You should have known that Labour Law was first semester, so she couldn't have been there. Speaking of communicating with students on a personal level, what do you think of Jennifer receiving a valentine in the Quid?

Our reactions were mixed, but in the end we all thought it was nice that someone looked beyond the face at the counter and recognised that there was a person there.

[Reporter brushed away a sincere, (à la B. Mulroney) tear.]

Do law students seem aggressive and/or under pressure?

The first year student seem the most anxious, but they're also the least pushy.

What other aspects of work merit discussion?

The Lost & Found situation is just plain weird. Clothing we can understand (except some items) but we have prescription glasses and keys to cars and houses here that no one claims. Do people tell themselves that they must have imagined owning a car or having a

place to live?

Also, people call here for information on things that we've never heard of.

Like what?

(This answer was pre-empted by someone calling to enquire where P.E. Trudeau was speaking. They hadn't heard about it so they scrambled to get info, if any.)

How's your work environment?

The skylight is useless.

What skylight?

The one right above you. It's covered with snow all winter. We have no windows and the little space we have is perhaps not optimally used. During exam time we can't move for piles of paper. Admissions next door have similar problems. Have you thought of interviewing them.

No, I haven't. Like most students, my contact with Admissions was fleeting before I was accepted into law and has been non-existent since then.

They accomplish amazing things in a really tough job. You should consider it.

I will.

(On behalf of all students, and especially graduands, who may never see her again, I wished Heather all the best. As I prepared to leave, they debated with Admissions whether to order souvlaki or pizza.)

THE RENAISSANCE IS OVER

By Angelo Noce, Nat. IV

In the Fifteenth Century, Leonardo Da Vinci was at the pinnacle of art, physics, engineering and anatomy. This was made possible by the fact that in Da Vinci's time, humankind possessed an infinitesimal fraction of the knowledge which is at its disposal today. The information explosion which characterizes our era has dealt the death blow to any remaining possibility of being a "Renaissance Man". The name of the game has become specialization and all law students must come to realize this.

The fact that many students still have not grasped this basic truth is evidenced by Steven Lloyd's article in the January Quid, in which he lamented the lack of

extra-curricular courses open to law students. I have heard similar complaints on many occasions from other students. What these people fail to realize is that every non-law course that we take during our stay at McGill will make us less specialized, and therefore less competitive, once we enter the work force.

When I decided to enter law school, I realized that it involved a serious commitment on my part and I was prepared to sacrifice many extra-curricular activities in order to be part of a respected profession. Four years later, I have come to the point where most of what I know is law. That's the price that I knowingly accepted to pay. I decided that I would become a lawyer, not a sociologist or an

art historian. It therefore stands to reason that all the courses I take at McGill should be law courses. If anything, Associate Dean Stevens should be even stricter in limiting the outside law credits open to students. While many would complain about this at first, they would be grateful when came time for them to enter the job market.

The great innovators of the Renaissance have been dead for half a millennium. In their graves lie the last remnants of the notion that the same individual can excel in every branch of human activity at once. The sooner Lloyd and the others accept this, the sooner they can start aiming to be less like Da Vinci and more like Denning.